GENO AT 999 WINS
The UConn women give their coach a 103-69 victory over DePaul. C1

WILDFIRES
Southern California is choked in smoke as wildfires keep burning. A5

MISSING MOTHER
Work Nathan Carman did on his boat before it sank attacked. B1

SNOWY DAY **
Heaviest in afternoon. A2, B1

Hartford Courant

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UCONN FOOTBALL COACH

Edsall Won't Sign Contract

Uncertainty Of Son As Assistant Remains A Sticking Point

By MIKE ANTHONY
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Nearly a year after Randy Edsall signed an offer letter from UConn that stated the general terms of his employment, the football coach continues to work without a formal, signed contract.

A full season gone by, Edsall has handled the day-to-day operations of the program like any coach would and has been paid his $1 million salary. The initial offer letter stated that both sides should finalize a contract within 60 days of his Jan. 3 hiring, but that has not happened.

The holdup, sources say, has mostly to do with Edsall's ongoing lawsuit against the Citizen's Ethics Advisory Board, which has ruled that the employment of Edsall's son, assistant coach Corey Edsall, violates state ethics laws.

Reached Friday afternoon, Edsall said of his contract status, "I have a letter of agreement with the university that is binding."

While the case plays out in court, the Edsalls have filed a motion for a stay of the Board's conclusion that stated Corey Edsall's contract should not be renewed. If granted, that means the situation would remain status quo until a judge rules on the matter.

EDSALL, A4

RANDY EDSALL agreed to a deal last year, but never signed his contract.

NUTCRACKER AT HARTT

BRAD HORRIGAN | BHORRIGAN@COURANT.COM

HOLIDAY BALLET TRADITION

THE HARTT School Community Division rehearses Thursday for its production of "The Nutcracker" this month at the University of Hartford's Millard Auditorium. Erica Wolf, far right, portraying Clara's mother, hugs Virginia Hargraves, portraying Clara. Performances will include special guest artists. Tickets are available from **hartford.edu/tickets** and the show runs tonight and Sunday afternoon, and next weekend, Friday through Sunday.

GOLF IN CROMWELL

Travelers The Best Tournament? PGA Says So

Event Also 'Most Fan Friendly,' 'Players Choice'

By JOHN ALTAVILLA
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Until Friday, the 2017 Travelers Championship in Cromwell probably was remembered for the way it ended, the sight of Jordan Spieth, barely visible over the lip of the bunker, sinking one of the most incredible shots of the season to win the tournament.

It was the culmination of perhaps the greatest week in the tournament's 66-year history, a gallery estimated at 100,000 looking on from all corners of a course that had received rave reviews from the golfers who were playing on it.

As it turned out, the people of Connecticut weren't the only ones who noticed. The 2017 Travelers has been honored as the PGA Tour's tournament of the year. The event was just one of many honored for excellence by the organization.

"On behalf of the PGA Tour, I am pleased to congratulate these tournaments for being named the best among their peers on tour," PGA executive vice president and Chief Tournaments and Competitions Officer Andy Pazder said in a statement. "The respective tournament committees worked tirelessly on new and innovative ways of improving the tournament experience and

TRAVELERS, A4

JERUSALEM ORDER

Rallies, Gaza Clashes Erupt

Rocket Fired Amid Riots, Muslim Protests

By KARIN LAUB and ILAN BEN ZION
Associated Press

GAZA CITY — Israeli forces fired live ammunition Friday at Palestinian protesters who burned tires and threw stones near the border fence with Gaza, and Israeli jets responded to rocket fire with an airstrike, in a sharp escalation of violence over President Donald Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Two Palestinians were reported killed and hundreds injured.

One rocket hit the southern Israeli city of Sderot, but no casualties were reported. The unrest came amid demonstrations across the Middle East and in the West Bank and Jerusalem.

The biggest turnout, though, appeared to be in the Gaza Strip, where thousands gathered for street protests following midday sermons focused on the United States' decision to move its embassy.

JERUSALEM, A4

NEW BRITAIN MAYOR

Stewart Considers A Run For Governor

Popular Republican Faces Big Hurdles

By DON STACOM
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NEW BRITAIN — A month after winning her third term as mayor, Erin Stewart is eyeing a bigger job: governor.

Stewart

Long-rumored as a possible candidate for statewide office, Stewart on Friday confirmed that she's talking with state Republican leaders about whether to run in 2018.

"I'm becoming increasingly concerned with the field of candidates that are out there and seeing no clear front-runner," she told The Courant. "I've started to make calls to some GOP elders to gauge their opinion."

Stewart, who was 26 and the city's youngest mayor when she first won office in

STEWART, A4

First Widespread Snowfall To Blanket State

Snow is expected to blanket the state all day Saturday, dropping between 4 and 8 inches and continuing to fall overnight until early Sunday, according to the National Weather Service, which has issued a winter weather advisory through Sunday morning. Some cities and towns are enforcing parking bans and have canceled Saturday events.

In Hartford, school activities, Winterfest at Bushnell Park, holiday tours at the governor's mansion, the Ugly Sweater 5K run downtown and the Hartford Yard Goats' Winterfest at Dunkin' Donuts Park all were canceled, mostly because of a citywide parking ban from 10 a.m. Saturday to 10 a.m. Sunday.

Most of the day Sunday is expected to be clear but the next chance for snow isn't far away, with more chances Monday night and Tuesday morning. **Connecticut, Page B1**

Americans In Debt

About a third of the U.S. population has unpaid bills in collection. One in five households has medical dept.
Business, Page A7

Birthday Hero

World War II veteran who fought in the Battle of the Bulge turns 100.
Connecticut, Page B1

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CLASSIFIED M4
COMICS B8-B9
LOTTERY A2
MOVIES B7
OBITUARIES B4-B5
PUBLIC NOTICES M4

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